UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/753,033	12/30/2000	Timothy R. Collier	42390P10501	9680

7590 03/13/2006	EXAMINER

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP
Seventh Floor
12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026

EXAMINER
ROBINSON BOYCE, AKIBA K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3639	

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/753,033	COLLIER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Akiba K. Robinson-Boyce	3639	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *20 December 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 16-24* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-4 and 16-24* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims   (

1.   Due to communications filed 12/20/05, the following is final office action.

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 13, and 16-20 have been amended. Claim 5 has been

cancelled. Claims 1-4 and 6-24 are pending in this application and have been

examined on the merits. Claims 1-4 and 16-24 are rejected as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-4 and 6-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Halavais et al (WO 00/65506, hereinafter WO' 506), and

further in view of Sankaranarayan et al (US 6,799,208).

As per Claim 1, WO' 506 discloses a method comprising:

receiving information regarding...transactions at a transaction coordinator

of a client, the...transactions representing discrete transactions for two or more a

resource items, (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 page 4, line 13., page 8,

line 10 - page 10, line 3),

sending from a transaction coordinator a tentative hold requests for the

two or more resource items to a transaction manager of a server causing

tentative hold records to be created and associated with each of the discrete
transactions, (see Id.); and

after successfully gaining each of the tentative holds on each of the
resource items and receiving confirmation fro the transaction manager regarding
each of the transactions, the transaction coordinator directing the commitment of
the transactions (see Supra Figs. and pages).

WO' 506 does not disclose two or more transactions for two or more
resource items that are from different service providers, but does disclose
accessing a wide area network on Page 1, line 12-14, in order to access two or
more resource items on Page 5, lines 3-6 where the customer initiates a
transaction to seat a party of four at a table. In this case, four resource items,
represented by seats are disclosed.

However, Sankaranarayan et al discloses:

two or more transactions for two or more resource items that are from
different service providers, (Abstract, lines 3-23, shows multiple resource
providers that support resource consumers, where consumers are arbitrated
access to the resources provided by resource providers, and consumers can
create one or more "configurations" that describe various sets of preferred
resources and can specify one or more configurations for each activity. In this
case, more than one activity is shown, which represents the two or more
transactions). Sankaranarayan et al discloses this limitation in an analogous art
to show resource management, implementing multiple resource providers.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the applicant's invention to have two or more transactions for two or more

resource items that are from different service providers with the motivation of

implementing a system that can function in a wide area networked environment.

As per Claim 2, WO' 506 further discloses the method, wherein directing

the commitment of the transactions comprises initiating conventional Two-phase

Commit (2PC) prepare and commit processing for transactions (see Figs. 1 and

6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3).

As per Claim 3, WO' 506 further discloses the method, further comprising

receiving a notification indicating that the transactions are no longer possible,

(see Id.).

As per Claim 4, WO' 506 further discloses the method, wherein the

tentative hold records are stored at an intermediate server that is not within the

service providers offering the resource items (see Supra Figs. and pages).

As per Claim 6, WO' 506 discloses a method comprising:

receiving information regarding...transactions at a transaction coordinator

of a client from an originating application, the...transactions involving two or more

resource items... (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8,

line 10 - page 10, line 3), and

the transaction coordinator initiating a tentative-hold processing stage by

requesting that a resource manager of a remote server and participating in the

two or more transactions by tentatively holding the resource items involved in the

transactions and storing call back information identifying a return communication path to the originating application, (see Id.)

WO' 506 does not disclose two or more transactions for two or more resource items that are from different service providers, but does disclose accessing a wide area network on Page 1, line 12-14, in order to access two or more resource items on Page 5, lines 3-6 where the customer initiates a transaction to seat a party of four at a table. In this case, four resource items, represented by seats are disclosed.

However, Sankaranarayan et al discloses:

two or more transactions for two or more resource items that are from different service providers, (Abstract, lines 3-23, shows multiple resource providers that support resource consumers, where consumers are arbitrated access to the resources provided by resource providers, and consumers can create one or more "configurations" that describe various sets of preferred resources and can specify one or more configurations for each activity. In this case, more than one activity is shown, which represents the two or more transactions). Sankaranarayan et al discloses this limitation in an analogous art to show resource management, implementing multiple resource providers.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have two or more transactions for two or more resource items that are from different service providers with the motivation of implementing a system that can function in a wide area networked environment.

As per Claim 7, WO' 506 does not disclose the remote servers are from different service providers, but does disclose accessing a wide area network on Page 1, line 12-14, in order to access two or more resource items on Page 5, lines 3-6 where the customer initiates a transaction to seat a party of four at a table. In this case, four resource items, represented by seats are disclosed.

However, Sankaranarayan et al discloses:

the remote servers are from different service providers are from different service providers, (Abstract, lines 3-23, shows multiple resource providers that support resource consumers, where consumers are arbitrated access to the resources provided by resource providers, and consumers can create one or more "configurations" that describe various sets of preferred resources and can specify one or more configurations for each activity. In this case, more than one activity is shown, which represents the two or more transactions). Sankaranarayan et al discloses this limitation in an analogous art to show resource management, implementing multiple resource providers.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have remote servers from different service providers from different service providers with the motivation of implementing a system that can function in a wide area networked environment.

As per Claim 8, WO' 506 further discloses the method, further comprising:

receiving a commitment corresponding to the transactions from the originating application; and responsive to the commitment, initiating a two-phase commit processing stage by directing the resource managers to reserve the

resource items during which the resource managers reserve the resource items and notifying, via corresponding call back information, other applications having a tentative hold on the same resource items that their respective tentative holds have been suspended (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 1 0 - page 10, line 3).

As per Claim 24, WO' 506 further discloses the method, wherein the non-mutually exclusive manner of the tentative hold allows the resource item to be held for a shod duration of time (see Id.).

As per Claim 9, WO' 506 discloses a method comprising:

Receiving at a first transaction coordinator, of a first client, a first request associated with a first transaction, the first request soliciting a non-mutually exclusive hold on a resource item; the resource item being part of a first transaction; (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5- page 4, line 13, page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3), wherein the non-mutually exclusive hold is a hold that allows multiple clients to simultaneously maintain a hold on the resource item, (Col. 3, line 34-Col. 4, line 1, permits system use by multiple simultaneous users and shows that once the payment information is verified, by one customer, seats are blocked for duplicate sale and presented to the next customer, in this case, the hold is cancelled by the multiple simultaneous users once payment information is verified by one customer).

maintaining a first non-mutually exclusive hold on the resource item until an exclusive lock is obtained on the resource item or for a predetermined amount of time, whichever occurs first, by the first transaction coordinator

causing a first tentative hold record to be created and associated with the

resource item and initiating a first timeout associated with the their tentative hold

record (see Id.);

receiving, at the second transaction coordinator, of a second client, a

second request associated with a second discrete transaction, the second

request soliciting a non-mutually exclusive hold on the resource item, the

resource item being pad of a second atomic distributed transaction (see Supra

Figs. and pages);

maintaining a second non-mutually exclusive hold on the resource item

until an exclusive lock is obtained on the resource item or for a predetermined

amount of time, whichever occurs first, by causing a second tentative hold record

to be created and associated with the resource item and initiating a second

timeout associated with the second tentative hold record (see Id.);

receiving at the first transaction coordinator, from the first client, a third

request associated with the first discrete transaction, the third request asking that

completion of the first discrete transaction commence (see Figs. 1 and 6, and

page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3); and

responsive to the third request, suspending the second non-mutually

exclusive hold and granting an excusive lock on the resource item to the first

discrete transaction (see Id.).

As per Claim 10, WO' 506 further discloses the method, wherein the first

non-mutually exclusive hold allows the resource item to be held for a short

duration of time (see Supra Figs. and pages).

As per Claim 11, WO' 506 further discloses the method of claim, further

comprising:

storing call back information associated with an application originating the

second discrete transaction; and notifying the application regarding the

suspension of the second non-mutually exclusive hold (see Figs. 1 and 6, and

page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3).

As per Claim 12, WO' 506 further discloses the method, further comprising

in response to a timeout on the exclusive lock, recommencing the second non-

mutually exclusive hold on behalf of the second discrete transaction (see Id,).

As per Claim 13, WO' 506 discloses a distributed transaction processing

system comprising:

a distributed transaction coordinator executing on a first client system, the

distributed transaction coordinator to place holds on each of a plurality of

resource items associated with an atomic distributed transaction that spans a

plurality of network resources and to commence completion of the atomic

distributed transaction by obtaining exclusive locks on each of the plurality of

resource items after the holds have been successfully granted on each of the

plurality of resource items, (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line

13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3), and

a distributed transaction manager executing on a server system

communicatively coupled with a plurality of client systems including the first client

system, the distributed transaction manager to maintain a plurality of non-

mutually exclusive holds for each of a plurality of resource items associated with

the server system and to grant only one notifying the application regarding the

suspension of the second non-mutually exclusive hold (see Figs. 1 and 6, and

page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3).

WO' 506 does not disclose, wherein the plurality of resource items are

from different service providers, but does disclose accessing a wide area network

on Page 1, line 12-14, in order to access two or more resource items on Page 5,

lines 3-6 where the customer initiates a transaction to seat a party of four at a

table. In this case, four resource items, represented by seats are disclosed.

However, Sankaranarayan et al discloses:

wherein the plurality of resource items are from different service

providers;, (Abstract, lines 3-23, shows multiple resource providers that support

resource consumers, where consumers are arbitrated access to the resources

provided by resource providers, and consumers can create one or more

"configurations" that describe various sets of preferred resources and can specify

one or more configurations for each activity. In this case, more than one activity

is shown, which represents the two or more transactions). Sankaranarayan et al

discloses this limitation in an analogous art to show resource management,

implementing multiple resource providers.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the applicant's invention wherein the plurality of resource items are from different

service providers; with the motivation of implementing a system that can function

in a wide area networked environment.

As per Claim 12, WO' 506 further discloses the method, further comprising in response to a timeout on the exclusive lock, recommencing the second non-mutually exclusive hold on behalf of the second discrete transaction (see Id,).

As for Claim 13, WO' 506 discloses a distributed transaction processing system comprising:

a distributed transaction coordinator executing on a first client system, the distributed transaction coordinator to place non-mutually exclusive holds on each of a plurality of resource items associated with an atomic distributed transaction that spans a plurality of network resources and to commence completion of the atomic distributed transaction by obtaining exclusive locks on each of the plurality of resource items after non-mutually exclusive holds have been successfully granted on each of the plurality of resource items (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3); and

a distributed transaction manager executing on a server system communicatively coupled with a plurality of client systems including the first client system, the distributed transaction manager to maintain a plurality of holds for each of a plurality of resource items associated with the server system and to grant only one exclusive lock per single resource item of the plurality of resource items at a given time in response to requests from distributed transaction coordinators (see Id.).

As per Claim 14, WO' 506 further discloses the system, wherein the distributed transaction coordinator includes a Two-phase Commit transaction coordinator (see Supra Figs. and pages).

As per Claim 15, WO' 506 further discloses the system, further comprising one or more Two-phase Commit resource managers communicatively coupled with the distributed transaction manager (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13, page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3).

As per Claim 16, WO' 506 discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, the sequences of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

receive information regarding an atomic distributed transaction, the atomic distributed transaction representing an aggregation of a plurality of discrete transactions for individual resource items that span a plurality of network resources...; (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13, page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3),

place a tentative hold on each of the plurality of individual resource items by causing a tentative hold record to be created and associated with each of the plurality of discrete transactions, (see Id.); and

after successfully gaining the tentative holds on each of the plurality of individual resource items and receiving a confirmation regarding the atomic distributed transaction, attempt to direct the completion of the atomic distributed transaction, (see Id.).

WO' 506 does not disclose, that resource items are from different service providers, but does disclose accessing a wide area network on Page 1, line 12-14, in order to access two or more resource items on Page 5, lines 3-6 where the

customer initiates a transaction to seat a party of four at a table. In this case,

four resource items, represented by seats are disclosed.

However, Sankaranarayan et al discloses:

resource items are from different service providers;, (Abstract, lines 3-23,

shows multiple resource providers that support resource consumers, where

consumers are arbitrated access to the resources provided by resource

providers, and consumers can create one or more "configurations" that describe

various sets of preferred resources and can specify one or more configurations

for each activity. In this case, more than one activity is shown, which represents

the two or more transactions). Sankaranarayan et al discloses this limitation in

an analogous art to show resource management, implementing multiple resource

providers.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the applicant's invention for resource items to be from different service providers;

with the motivation of implementing a system that can function in a wide area

networked environment.

As per Claim 17, WO' 506 further discloses the medium, wherein said

attempt to direct the completion of the atomic distributed transaction comprises

initiating Two-phase Commit (2PC) prepare and commit processing for each of

the plurality of discrete transactions (see Supra Figs. and pages).

As for Claim 18, WO' 506 further discloses the medium, wherein one or

more of the tentative hold records are stored at an intermediate server that is not

within the service providers offering the resource items, (see Id.).

As for Claim 19, WO' 506 further discloses the medium, wherein the plurality of network resources comprise database systems of a plurality of different service providers (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13, page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3).

As for Claim 20, WO' 506 discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, the sequences of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

receive, from a first client, a first request associated with a first discrete

transaction, the first request soliciting a non-mutually exclusive hold on a resource item, the resource item being part of a first atomic distributed transaction that spans a plurality of network resources, wherein the non-mutually exclusive hold is a hold that allows multiple clients to simultaneously maintain a hold on the resource item, (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13, page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3), wherein the non-mutually exclusive hold is a hold that allows multiple clients to simultaneously maintain a hold on the resource item, (Col. 3, line 34-Col. 4, line 1, permits system use by multiple simultaneous users and shows that once the payment information is verified, by one customer, seats are blocked for duplicate sale and presented to the next customer, in this case, the hold is cancelled by the multiple simultaneous users once payment information is verified by one customer);

maintain a first non-mutually exclusive hold on the resource item until an exclusive lock is obtained on the resource item or for a predetermined amount of time, whichever occurs first, by causing a first tentative hold record to be created

and associated with the resource item and initiating a first timeout associated

with the first tentative hold record (see Id.);

receive, from a second client, a second request associated with a second

discrete transaction, the second request soliciting a non-mutually exclusive hold

on the resource item, the resource item being pad of a second atomic distributed

transaction (see Supra Figs. and the descriptions thereof);

maintain a second non-mutually exclusive hold on the resource item until

an exclusive lock is obtained on the resource item or for a predetermined amount

of time, whichever occurs first, by causing a second tentative hold record to be

created and associated with the resource item and initiating a second timeout

associated with the second tentative hold record (see Id.);

receive, from the first client, a third request associated with the first

discrete transaction, the third request asking that completion of the first discrete

transaction commence (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13,

page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3), and

responsive to the third request, suspend the second non-mutually

exclusive hold and granting an excusive lock on the resource item to the first

discrete transaction, (see Id.).

As for Claim 21, WO' 506 further discloses the medium, wherein at least

two network resources of the plurality of network resources are associated with

different enterprise, (see Supra Figs.).

As for Claim 22, WO' 506 further discloses the medium, wherein the sequences of instructions further include instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to:

store call back information associated with an application originating the second discrete transaction; and notify the application regarding the suspension of the second non-mutually exclusive hold (see Figs. 1 and 6, and page 3, line 5 - page 4, line 13., page 8, line 10 - page 10, line 3).

As for Claim 23, WO' 506 further discloses the medium of claim 20, wherein the sequences of instructions further include instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to recommence the second non-mutually exclusive hold on behalf of the second discrete transaction in response to a timeout on the exclusive lock (see Id.).

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 6-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The applicant argues that the reference used does not disclose limitations amended into the claims. However, this new rejection given covers the claims as amended.

Conclusion

3.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Akiba K Robinson-Boyce whose telephone number is 571-272-6734. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7238 [After final communications, labeled "Box AF"], 703-
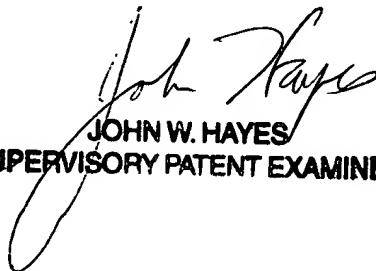
746-7239 [Official Communications], and 703-746-7150 [Informal/Draft

Communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"].

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application

or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is

703-305-3900.

A. R. B.
February 28, 2006

JOHN W. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER